

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A network printer which is connected to a network and performs printing based on printing requests from clients connected to the network, the network printer comprising:

designating means for designating at least one client who is allowed to use the network printer or at least one job to be performed by the network printer; and

printing means for accepting only printing requests from a client or clients designated by the designating means or for a job or jobs designated by the designating means, and for performing printing according to the accepted printing requests.

2. The network printer of claim 1 further including means for spooling printing requests from non-designated clients or for non-designated jobs until designation by the designation means is removed.

3. The network printer of claim 1 further including means for refusing printing requests from non-designated clients or for non-designated jobs.

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4. A network printer which is connected to a network and performs printing based on printing requests from clients also connected to the network, the network printer comprising:

a plurality of paper supply means;

designating means for designating at least one client or job for at least one of the plurality of paper supply means such that one paper supply means is dedicated for one client or job ; and

printing means for accepting only printing requests from the client(s) or for the job(s) designated by the designating means, and for performing printing according to the accepted request(s) using the respective dedicated paper supply means.

5. The network printer of claim 4, wherein the plurality of paper supply means includes a manual feed tray.

6. The network printer of claim 4 further including means for spooling printing requests from non-designated clients or for non-designated jobs until designation by the designation means is removed .

7. The network printer of claim 4 further including means for refusing printing requests from non-designated clients or for non-designated jobs.

8. A network printer which is connected to a network and performs printing based on printing requests received from clients connected to the network, the network printer comprising:

a plurality of paper supply means which are capable of holding different types of paper, the type including at least paper size and paper alignment;

designating means for designating at least one of clients or jobs for at least one of the plurality of paper supply means such that one paper supply means is dedicated for one client or job; and

printing means for accepting only printing requests from the client(s) or job(s) designated by the designating means, and for performing printing on recording sheets supplied from the paper supply means dedicated therefor.

9. The network printer of claim 8, wherein the plurality of paper supply means includes a manual feed tray.

10. The network printer of claim 8 further including means for spooling printing requests from non-designated clients or for non-designated jobs until designation by the designation means is removed.

11. The network printer of claim 8 further including means for refusing printing requests from non-designated clients or for non-designated jobs.

12. A method of printing, comprising the steps of:  
providing a printer connected to a network for performing printing  
based on printing requests sent from clients connected to the network;  
designating at least one client who is allowed to use the printer; and  
accepting only printing requests from a client or clients designated  
by the designating means; and  
performing printing according to the accepted printing requests.

13. The method of claim 12 further including the step of spooling  
printing requests from non-designated clients until designation by the  
designation means is removed.

14. The method of claim 12 further including the step of refusing  
printing requests from non-designated clients.